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462 Fishing, an activity of relative unimportance in Guajiro economic life, is also done by the men. It is limited to obtaining certain edible species or to gathering oysters for the pearl trade, and, as in hunting, it is the men who manufacture the necessary equipment and implements.

[226]

Agricultural work is divided between the two sexes. The man is responsible for the preparation of the land for sowing: cutting, clearing and burning, and the tasks of weeding and hilling. Although planting is women's work, certain vegetables have to be planted by men because according to their magic beliefs if these plants are sown by women they will never give a good crop either in quantity or quality; such plants are, for example, fruit trees and creeping plants such as the water melon, melon, calabashes, etc. It is also men's work to fence in their plots of land.

The migration of many males to Venezuela and to other regions bordering on the peninsula, due to the climatic conditions already mentioned, has made it permissible for the women to take part in agricultural tasks normally considered suitable only for men.

The Guajiro man is the one who builds the dwelling. He obtains the help he needs in the form of communal labor, and with this aid he transports the materials and builds his house without any aid from his wife.

462 In leisure moments or during the hottest hours of the day, while resting on hammocks, young Guajiro men apply themselves
●32 to carving rings, beads for necklaces or bracelets, and amulets or small figures to hang round the neck or wrist, which yield a small income; to make these he uses broom handles, small plastic combs, ram and goat horns, coconut shells and coral. During these moments or whenever the opportunity arises, he also makes toe pieces for his sandals, using a small loom. This occupation has an economic end in the towns where such articles find a ready sale.

[439]

8:Armstrong & Métraux E-4 (no date) 1948
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They make designs on 302
their skin with black stain and tattoo themselves, especially on the arms 304
and legs, with charcoal dust pigment. At least one of the marks is [619]
the same as the tribal brand.

MANUFACTURES

Women have a rather definite daily routine. They arise before day- 512
break, milk the cows, and prepare the morning meal for the men, who 462
then go off to fish, hunt, fight, or merely loaf and drink chicha. They fill their jugs at the water hole and then spend the rest of the day collecting wild cotton, spinning, weaving, making ropes, grinding corn, making butter, cheese, and chicha, and performing other household duties. They milk again in the evening.

Textiles are probably the best *Goajiro* manufactures. Their other 286
products are pottery (which is the virtual monopoly of a few sibs), bows 32
and arrows, and saddles and harnesses.

Spinning and weaving.—Wild cotton is collected, the seeds removed 283
by hand, and small wads are rolled around a thin stick to form small tubes about half an inch (12.5 mm.) in diameter and 6 inches (15 cm.) long. These tubes are then spun into thread with the use of a spindle, one end of which rests in a calabash bowl on the ground. Yarns are [384]
colored with vegetable dyes, especially divi-divi.

Almost every household owns a loom, before which the women sit for 286
hours weaving hammocks and bright-colored belts for men and horses. The warp is made from one long continuous thread wound around two thick horizontal poles, the upper one firmly attached to two uprights, the lower one hanging loose and maintaining the tension. As the work progresses, the cloth is moved forward around the poles, so that an endless strip of cloth is produced, which is then cut. Shuttles are passed through by hand, the warp being shifted by means of a threading arrangement which takes hold of alternate strands. On a piece of cloth about 2 yards wide an inch of weave every three hours is considered very fast work.

Containers.—Most cooking utensils are made of crude earthenware by 323
a few tribes in the vicinity of the Teta, a peak near the middle of the 415
peninsula. Spoons and forks are cut out of calabashes. Some Indians 439
possess enameled mugs and pots obtained from itinerant traders.

Weapons.—Almost every man possesses a good rifle. Cartridges are 441
scarce and expensive and must be smuggled in. Firearms are consequently reserved mainly for warfare, and the bow and arrow is the everyday weapon.

The bow is made from the hard, springy wood of the black palm. It is almost round in cross section, 5 to 6 feet (1.7 to 2 m.) long, and strung with a special sisal cord. The end which rests on the ground is protected